



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Alan Chervitz et al.  
Serial No.: 09/981,927  
Filing Date: 10/17/2001  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ORTHOPEDIC  
FIXATION  
Group Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: Pedro Philogene  
Attorney's Docket No.: MED-8 CIP

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
**MAY 03 2004**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicants hereby petition for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Official Action mailed October 22, 2003, with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from January 22, 2004 to April 22, 2004.

A check in the amount of \$475.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of a Small Entity status.

04/27/2004 AADOF01 00000148 09981927

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475.00 DP

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In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

April 22, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

James A. Sheridan 4/22/04

(SIGNATURE)

April 22, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,

*James A. Sheridan 4/22/04*

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